Decatur, Illinois,
March 24-1957

Dr. John O. McNeel,
1127 Pine Street,
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Dr. McNeel:

Your letter of the 22nd. inst. arrived this A.M., in re - the Postoffice of Millpoint, W. Va., originally "Cackleytown", and some inquiry concerning the "Cackley Family".

You seem to have settled at least the time that "Millpoint, Virg." (now W.Va.) became a "U.S. Post office" - however, the name of the town could have been changed earlier than the date the P.O. was established.

I have a copy of a letter written on Feb. 6-1893 by "Dr. Cephas Keckley," Maysville, Ky. to "Wm. H. Cackley" of Ronceverte, W. Va., (This Wm. H. Ca. the son of (6) Valentine Cackley Jr. - not the "Wm. Mc. Ca." of near Millpoint), in which he was seeking info. about the Virg. Cackleys) - and his letter contained the following paragraph = "In a list of battle skirmishes in Va. I find the name "CACKLEYTOWN". I could not find such a "Postoffice" - where is it? I think Wm. Cackley spoke of the place when at father's." =

Of course, this has reference to "Civil War Skirmishes", and this would be thirty years after the date the P.O. Dept. Records show that the town was Millpoint. (1865 - less 1835 = 30 years) However, between 1862 and 1865 the residents and the Civil War Soldiers and correspondents, evidently still called the little village "Cackleytown". The above listed 1893 letter was where I conceived the idea that "Cackleytown" did not become "Millpoint" until the latter part of the Civil War, or later.

The above named "Dr. Cephas Keckley" was of the 5th Generation, a son of (4) "Joseph (none) and Elizabeth (Turner) Ke.," and he a son of (4) "Elias (none) Keckley SR.", a son of "Jacob Keckley SR. (1701-1788), or our Gen. No 1.

You ask the priviledge to look over my "Cackley" data at some time - and that "Bill" Cackley may have given me much of this material. "Bill" had sent me no data, until a letter came on Mch. 22nd - in which he sent "Info." for his Branch, his parents, grandparents, and great grd. parents (Gen No. 3) - of Levi (none) SR. and Nancy (none) (Bradshaw) Cackley." He sent no data, not even names, for his grandfather's (6) Wm. James Ca.) 3 Brothers and 2 Sisters.

I note that you are compiling a History of the "McNeel Family", therefore, I am wondering how far back you may know about the original "Keckley Ancestors" who came to the "Palatine" - and if you know about the three spellings of the original family name of "KECKLEY"; namely - "KECKLEY - KOCKLEY & COCKLEY"?

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"Keckley Family History Data", at any time it may suit your convenience - however - I wish to state that my "Cackley Branches" data Is LIMITED, as I personally have contacted None of the "Cackley Branches" - I ran onto "Bill" in a rather peculiar manner. I wrote the "Assn of Commerce" at Millpoint, not then knowing it was such a small village - my letter was sent to the "Prison Camp" - then relayed to "Wm H. Cackley" of the "Twin Oakes Farm" - and he replied - my inquiry concerned the date that "Cackleytown" became "Millpoint" - and - "Bill" did not know.

I will explain a little more about the "Keckley F. History" "processing" of data - It looks like we will not be "compiling" for 20 or 30 years yet. There are at present 3 Historians, and a General Genealogist - so engaged - I have been working on this "History" for only about 5½ years. The "Genl. Genealogist," about 8 years - at present we have "catalogued" probably over 9,000 Ancestors & descendants - I alone - have added over 4000 in my 5½ years, or almost ½ of our total.

I put in about 3 years on the "KECKLEY" Bchs. ONLY, and while doing so - ran into a "Kackley Bch." out in Nebraska, who - in 1865 went into "Court" in Ottumwa, Iowa, and Legally changed his last name to "KECKLEY" - and at that time he had 8 children, ranging in age from 6 to 22 years - and they all became "KECKLEY(S)" without any legal procedure EXCEPT his Oldest Son who applied with his father. This instance - threw me into "processing" "Kackley" Branches - before - I was ready to do so - therefore, for the past 2½ years + - I have been "processing" "Kackley" Branches.

Our "Genl. Genealogist" - "Mr. Finley B. Campbell" of Pleasant City, Ohio - has been "processing" mostly - "Cackley" Branches, therefore, he has MORE "CACKLEY" detail data than we other 3 "Historians" - though - we all do know about what work each of we four are doing.

I have, I would roughly say - probably 300 "Cackley" names beginning with Gen No. 2 of "Valentine and Mary (Bryan) Cackley" and their 6 sons + 4 daughters - names only - no dates - on the 3rd Gen. - I have a few dates - but from the 4th Gen. onward on some of the Bchs. I do have both names and dates. Mr Campbell, I am sure has, much more "Cackley data" than he has sent to me.

We four "Historians" searched for some 8 years to finally PROVE that the ORIGINAL name here in the "Colonies" was "KECKLEY," but - we still can NOT locate the landing record of the 1st Generation.

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Possibly you have, or have heard of the "article" entitled – "THE CACKLEYS", published by the "Hon. Charles B. Johnson" of Blacksburg, Virg. In the "Marlinton Pocahontas Times" of Feb. 18-1946. If you do have it – "throw it into the waste-basket", as it is the most "in-information bunch of "Info." ever handed to the many – "Cackley, Kackley and Keckley Cousins" that we know of. It is practically All based on "THEORY". And that "Article" was "clipped" by many of our Virg. cousins, and "circulated" all over the various States. We "Historians" now call this "Honorable Chas. B. Johnson" the "HONKEY" C.B.J.

He is a descendant from the (1) "John Kackley SR. Bch." thru his daughter (7) ~~Rachel (Ka) VOE-now "LOST"~~, (8) Hannah (Ka) Johnson; (4) John Ka. Johnson; (?) Wm James Johnson – then Tie (?) Hon. Chas B. Johnson Gen No. 6, of Blacksburg Va. (an Attorney).

In his article "The Cackleys" – he Sets up the "French Family" of "SEBASTIAN CARQUELIN" AS our ORIGINAL ANCESTOR – this French name is pronounced in French as if spelled "CACKELIE". They Sailed from Rotterdam, Holland in the "Princess Augusta", with Samuel Marchant as "Master", PALATINES with their families, in all 330 persons, they touched Cowes, England for clearance, and docked at Phila, Penn. as Vessell No 4?. on Sep. 16-1736. At that time – the "Shiplists" only Showed the "Male passengers" from 16 yrs. upward. The women were carried as "FREIGHTS", the children as "HALF-FREIGHTS". At that time – three "Ship lists" were made – two, the males 16 & upwards signed, one to forswear allegiance to the "King of England" – the other to take oaths to the "Penn. Colonial British Government" – If – you intended to live in that British Colony of Penn. The "third Shiplist" was prepared by the Ships "Master", in this case "Samuel Marchant" – he – or some sub. officer – made this list in their own hand-writing – Spelling the names as they understood the pronunciations. And on this master's Ship List these "CARQUELIN" names were Spelled "CACKELIE" – on the two lists they signed – they plainly Spelled their names. "CARQUELIN" – A very few of these names can be deciphered – I have "Photostats" of all three of these "Ship-lists". There were 7 Children in the family. But – [illegible]

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only the father and 2 sons signed, namely, Sebastian, Diedrich (signed as DIODY) and Jean. Sebastian Jr. died en route.

The "Master's" list showed them as follows:=

No. 70 - SEBASTIAN CACKENIE, age 50 yrs; No. 71 - SEBASTIAN CACKENIE, age 22 yrs. (DIED); No. 72 DIDERICK CACKENIE, age 20 yrs; and No. 73 - Hance (actually Jean) CACKENIE, age 17 yrs. One other male died en route, namely, HANS JONER.

The "Master's" list showed 120 males, 16 & upwards - less 2 deceased leaves 118 - but only 112 signed the other two lists - so 6 evidently went to other Colonies to settle.

A visiting relative of "Chas B. Johnson" - "Mrs. W. E. Collins" threw (?) Johnka Sec. dtr. (?) Rachel (Ka) (Yoo) now Yost; and others = She Gen. No. 6 - Mrs C. B. Johnson's "Source" for he to use his "Theory" - and She actually believed the "Cogueline" WERE our original ancestors. I will relate more of "Mrs W. E. Collins" later on.

I could not see these "Cogueline's" as our original ancestors for three reasons = FIRST - because I felt sure we were NOT FRENCH; SECONDLY - None of the names of "SEBASTIAN, DIDERICH OR JEAN" ever appeared in the "Jacob Keckley Sr. Branch", or any of his children, or grand children Bchs., THIRDLY - his namesake "Jacob Jr." spelled his name "KECKLEY", as did his 5 children.

Therefore, when I had a little spare time in 1953, I began a search in Penn. to either PROVE or DISAPPROVE these "Cogueline's" as our original ancestors. In about 4 mos time, by correspondence, I PROVED (thru the Cogueline Family Gen. Genealogist Mr. Henry S. Cocklin, Hillsburg, Penn.) that the Cogueline's were not even a "LINEAGE" by any of Sebastian SRS. 7 children marrying into either a "Ke-Ka or CACKLEY" Family. If I could have contacted this "Henry S. Cocklin" at first - 10 days was all I would have needed to PROVE them not even a "Lineage".

The "British Anglicising Law" of 1718 in the "Colony of Penn". finally caught up with the Cogueline Family in its third Generation in Penn., or in about 1760, when they became - "COCKLEY - COCKLEY & COCKLIN (s)".

Now, about "Mrs. W. E. Collins" - She was not what I would call a "Historian" - but - She was searching for an Ancestor who was a "Rev. War Soldier" - so - She could become a "D.A.R.". She traced her - "Keckley - Whiteman - Fribley - Yost - Barnes (?) and Collins". She knew that (?) John Keckley Sr. - WAS a "Rev. War Soldier" - BUT She could not

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find his record in either Frederick or Hampshire Counties — and So, as she believed the Cequelins were our Original Ancestors — and that in the 1700s boundry lines were quite indefinate — She went up into Lancaster & Cumberland Co's. Penn., and took a "John Cockley" (actually Jean Cequelin) who was shown as a = "Private in Cumberland Co. Pa. Militia, 3rd Battalion in 1781," and she added — "and Lancaster Co. Penn". He probably never fired a gun at any-body in the Rev. War — as the peace treaty was signed in 1780.

She "engineered" her Lineage this way:- Emma Barnes Collins, dtr of Sarah M. Tribby Collins, dtr. of Frances Yost Tribby, dtr of Rachel Cockley (actually Kackley - D.E.K.) Yost, dtr. of John Cockley, and the said John Kackley a son of Jacob Kackley (actually Keckley D.E.K). To support this "John Cockley" under "Ancestors Services" She brought in: An Archivist, Penn. State Library; French Huguenots; Sebastian Cequelin, his sons Sebastian (he died & never reached Penn - D.E.K), Dietrich and Jean; Anne May Gegley — a member Penn. Huguenot Soc. from "Jean"; John Cockley owner of Grist Mills near Winchester Va; who was one of four brothers who operated Mills near Capon Springs Va; about 1812 (was 1817. D.E.K) John Kackley (Keckley - Cockley - Cackley) came to Guernsey Co. Ohio from near Winchester. Va. The name is also spelled "Gogley - Keeley - Kuechele - Kochleik & Gockley". =

This was sure a "Master-piece-of-deceit" — but she became a "D.A.R".

After — 3 yrs. searching — I secured her "Old Steel Bread Box" full of letters, papers, notes, Etc — which she accumulated in about 35 years searching — it was at my home for about 2½ years — (just picked up — 2 mos. ago). A copy of the 1893 letter (two of them) by Dr. Cephas Kackley — was found in that "Old Bread Box". I also copied in long hand, two copies each of over 50 letters, which I felt had "Possibilities". The two "Dr Cephas Ka." letters were worth more than all the others located.

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=Page No. 6=

Shenandoah Valley) and settled in what is now Frederick County. Here he secured approx. 2,000 acres of land and operated a "Plantation" for about 47 years, or until his death in 1788. Have you ever learned where this Plantation was located?

= GEN. No. 1 = KECKLEY FAMILY HISTORY =

JACOB (NONE) KECKLEY SR. — B.- ____ 1701 or 1704 IN STAMHEIM, WURTTEMBURG, GERMANY.
D.- FEB. 15 or 16 - 1788 IN FREDERICK COUNTY, VIRG.
BRD. FEB. 18-1788 IN OLD FURNACE CEMETERY, NOW ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AND CEMETERY, LOCATED ABOUT 2 MI. WEST OF MOUNT WILLIAMS, ON STATE ROUTE NO. 600.
MAR'D. - ABOUT 1740 IN LANCASTER CO. PENN., WE BELIEVE — TO —

ALICE ____ ____ — B.- ____ -1717; D.- ____ -1805 IN FREDERICK CO., VIRG.
BRD. IN ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY.

= CHILDREN =

(1) JOHN (NONE) KECKLEY SR. — mrs. — Rebecca Weisman. — B.- 7-30-1741, LANCASTER CO. PENN. D.- 4-23-1873, GUERNSEY CO. OHIO - NOW IN NOBLE CO., 2½ MILES SO. EAST OF PLEASANT CITY, GUERNSEY CO. OHIO. HE HAD 3 SONS & 5 DTRS. - MOST OF THEM LIVED IN GUERNSEY CO. OHIO. HE WAS A REV. WAR SOLDIER. BRD. IN C.S. RICH CEMETERY S.E. OF PLEASANT CITY, OHIO.

(2) JACOB (NONE) KECKLEY JR. — NO BIRTH OR DEATH DATA. MAR'D. MARGARET SECRIST - HAD 2 SONS & 3 DTRS. INHERITED THE HOME PLANTATION IN 1788, DIED INTESTATE ONLY A FEW YEARS LATER. ESTATE EVIDENTLY HELD INTACT BY WIFE MARGARET, AS NO RECORDS CAN BE FOUND.

(3) VALENTINE (NONE) CACKLEY SR. — NO BIRTH OR DEATH DATES - MAR'D. "MARY (NONE) FRYE" OF CAPON SPRINGS, VA., EVIDENTLY A DTR. OF THE EARLY PIONEERS "ABRAHAM & AGNES FRYE" OF FREDERICK CO. VIRG., AND GRD. DTR. OF BENJAMIN FRYE (DIED IN FREDK. CO. IN 1752). THIS "FRYE" FAMILY CAME FROM MONTGOMERY CO. PENN. IN ABOUT 1738 AND SETTLED ON "CEDAR CREEK". IN ABOUT 1788 "VALENTINE CA. SR.", MIGRATED TO WHAT IS NOW POCAHONTAS CO. W.VA., AT THAT TIME WAS GREENBRIER CO., HE SETTLED AT WHAT IS NOW "MILLPOINT, W.VA.", WHICH HE ESTABLISHED AS "CACKLEY TOWN". HERE HE BUILT A MODERN "MILL" FOR THAT TIME; PROJECTED A "TANNERY"; STARTED A "TILT-HAMMER" AND A "GENERAL STORE". HE ALSO PROMOTED & ENCOURAGED OTHER USEFUL INDUSTRIES IN THAT SECTION. AND ACQUIRED A VAST LANDED ESTATE. HE HAD 6 SONS & 4 DTRS.

(4) ELIAS (NONE) KECKLEY SR. — Better known as, Known as "Elias" Keckley. — NO BIRTH DATA; D.- ABOUT 1816 IN FREDERICK CO. VIRG., WHERE HE LIVED HIS ENTIRE LIFE. MAR'D. "CATHERINE ____ ____", EVIDENTLY IN FREDERICK CO. VA. THEY HAD 5 SONS & 4 DTRS., ONE SON "BENJAMIN" DIED AT AN EARLY AGE. THEIR FIRST 5 CHILDREN REMAINED IN VIRG. ALSO (1) ELIAS JR. WHO MARR. & DIED AT A FAIRLY YOUNG AGE. THE OTHER CHILDREN CAME TO GUERNSEY CO. OHIO TO RESIDE, & (2) JACOB & ____ TO ____ TOWNSHIP TO KNOX CO. IND. (NEAR VINCENNES).

[illegible] records and [illegible] of newspapers [illegible]
[illegible]

Shenandoah Valley) and settled in what is now Frederick County.
Here he secured approx. 2,000 acres of land and operated a
"Plantation" for about 47 years, or until his death in 1788.
Have you ever learned where this plantation was located?

= GEN. NO. 1 = KECKLEY FAMILY HISTORY =

JACOB (NONE) KECKLEY SR. | B- ____ 1701 or 1708 IN STAMHEIM, WURTTEMBERG, GERMANY.
D- FEB 15 or 16 - 1788 IN FREDERICK COUNTY, VIRG.
BRD. FEB. 18-1788 IN OLD FURNACE CEMETERY, NOW ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AND CEMETERY, LOCATED ABOUT 2 MI. WEST OF MOUNT WILLIAMS, ON STATE ROUTE NO. 600.
MAR'D. - ABOUT 1740 IN LANCASTER CO. PENN., WE BELIEVE - TO -

ALICE ____ ____ | -B- ____ -1717; D- ____ -1805 IN FREDERICK CO., VIRG.
BRD. IN ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY.

=CHILDREN=

(1) JOHN (NONE) KACKLEY SR. — WIFE — ELIZABETH WISEMAN. | B- 7-30-1741, LANCASTER CO. PENN. D- 4-23-1873, GUERNSEY CO. OHIO - NOW IN NOBLE CO., 2½ MILES SO. EAST OF PLEASANT CITY, GUERNSEY CO. OHIO. HE HAD 3 SONS & 5 DTRS. - MOST OF THEM LIVED IN GUERNSEY CO. OHIO. HE WAS A REV. WAR SOLDIER. BRD. IN C.S. RICH CEMETERY S.E. OF PLEASANT CITY, OHIO.

(2) JACOB (NONE) KECKLEY JR. | NO BIRTH OR DEATH DATA. MAR'D. MARGARET SECRIST - HAD 2 SONS & 3 DTRS. INHERITED THE HOME PLANTATION IN 1788, DIED INTESTATE ONLY A FEW YEARS LATER. ESTATE EVIDENTLY HELD INTACT BY WIFE MARGARET, AS NO RECORDS CAN BE FOUND.

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(4) ELIAS (NONE) KACKLEY SR. — IN THIS HERE [illegible] KNOWN AS "ELIAS" KACKLEY. | - NO BIRTH DATA; D - ABOUT 1816 IN FREDERICK CO. VIRG. WHERE HE LIVED HIS ENTIRE LIFE. MAR'D. "CATHERINE ____ ____", EVIDENTLY IN FREDERICK CO. VA. THEY HAD 5 SONS & 4 DTRS., ONE SON "BENJAMIN" DIED AT AN EARLY AGE. THEIR FIRST 5 CHILDREN REMAINED IN VIRG., ALSO (1) ELIAS JR. WHO MARD. & DIED AT A FAIRLY YOUNG AGE. THE OTHER CHILDREN GOING TO GUERNSEY CO. OHIO TO RESIDE, & (2) JACOB & [illegible] TO KEY - [illegible] TO KNOX CO. IND. (NEAR VINCENNES).

[illegible] Records and [illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] 1801

(5) ELIZABETH & (6) MARY –	THESE TWO DTRS. WE STILL KNOW NOTHING ABOUT – SO, DO NOT KNOW HOW THEY SPELLED THEIR LAST NAMES, OR WHOM THEY MARRIED.
(7) BENJAMIN (none) KECKLEY – HE WAS A REV. WAR SOLDIER by "BENJAMIN CACKLEY" – A MEMBER OF "DANIEL MORGAN'S CO. OF VIRG. RIFLEMEN (96). HE WAS WOUNDED ON DEC 30-1775 AT THE BATTLE FOR QUEBEC, CANADA". "MAY BE" MADE THE "FAMOUS BEE-LINE MARCH" OF 600 MILES FROM WINCHESTER, VA. TO BOSTON, MASS. IN 25 DAYS, OR AN AVER. OF 24 MILES PER DAY. (Amy 24 to Aug 9th)	EVIDENTLY DIED IN DEC. 1780, AS HIS ESTATE WAS APPRAISED ON JAN. 8, 1781, VALUATION OF 5454 POUNDS, (ABOUT $30,000.00 THEN – D.E.K.), THE SALE HELD ON JAN. 16-1781, ESTATE SETTLED ON OCT. 5-1781. ONLY HEIR, WIFE "CATHERINE", WHO BECAME "MRS. HENRY RICHARDS" BEFORE THE ESTATE WAS SETTLED. HE ONE OF THE "APPRAISORS". THE ABOVE DATA SHOWS CLEARLY WHY "BENJAMIN" WAS NOT MENTIONED IN HIS FATHER'S WILL – MADE ON AUG 1ST-1781. HE HAD DIED ABOUT 8+ MONTHS PRIOR, AND LEFT NO "HEIRS" – EXCEPT – HIS WIFE CATHERINE. SRS. WILL PROBATED ON OCT. 6-1789, IN BOOK 5 PP 377, WINCHESTER, VIRG. EXECUTORS WERE HIS DEAR WIFE (NOT NAMED) & SON "ELIAS". THE SETTLEMENT OF HIS ESTATE WAS DELAYED, EVIDENTLY BECAUSE "MRS. ANCE KECKLEY" (HIS WIFE) DID NOT "OBJECT".

This will give you a good general idea of Gen No. 1 – and the THREE different SPELLINGS OF THE ORIGINAL FAMILY NAME, which we "Historians" ARE SURE was not INTENTIONAL – but due to "CIRCUMSTANCES". Caused by these "German Boys" pronunciation of their last name. A German ALWAYS pronounces an "E" as if it was a LONG OR BROAD "A" in English, therefore, they pronounced their names "KACKLEY". If a German wrote it down THEY would spell it "KECKLEY", but others would spell it either "Kackley" or "Cackley" – both pronounced the Same. Therefore – as these German Boys eventually owned "tangible property", the documents were frequently made out WRONGLY, and when they disposed of that property they were compelled to use these wrong spelled names – which furnished these wrong spelled names. In the middle 1700's it was more important to "till the Soil" to make a living – than it was – to worry about the "Spelling of your name" – therefore – 2 Sons (1) John & (2) Elias) became "KACKLEY", 1 Son (3) Valentine) became "CACKLEY", and 2 Sons remained "KECKLEY 6)" (6) Jacob Jr. & (7) Benjamin), although "Benjamin" was frequently called a "Cackley".

Now, you are probably wondering HOW I fit into this "Prologue" – Well, I am, so to speak – a "LOST KECKLEY, who can NOT Find His Flock". After 2½ years searching, I am unable to trace my Ancestors farther back than my Gt. Grd. father, namely, "John Keckley" (1787-72) who was born "someplace" in Virginia – his parents names Still unknown to me as Historian. He migrated to [illegible] Co. Penna, where on [illegible] he married "Christina [illegible]" (1805-1892) – Soon after they migrated as "[illegible]" to [illegible], Licking Co. Ohio, where he bought 111 acres of [illegible] – built a log cabin and began clearing the land & raising his family of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] – "Jacob" [illegible] was my Gr. father, (cont)

(5) Elizabeth & (6) Mary — { These Two Dtrs. we still know NOTHING About — So, Do Not Know How They Spelled Their Last Names, or Whom They Married.

(7) Benjamin (none) Keckley — Evidently Died In Dec. 1780, As His Estate Was Appraised On Jan. 8, 1781, Valuation of 5,454 Pounds, (About $30,000.00 Then - D.E.K.), The Sale Held on Jan. 16-1781, Estate Settled on Oct. 5-1781. Only Heir, Wife "Catherine", Who Became "Mrs. Henry Richards" Before The Estate Was Settled. He One of The "Appraisors". The Above Data Shows Clearly WHY "Benjamin" Was NOT Mentioned In His Father's Will - Made on Aug 1st - 1781. He Had Died About 8+ Months Prior, And Left No "Heirs" - Except - His Wife Catherine. Srs. Will Probated on Oct. 6 - 1789, In Book 5 pp 777, Winchester, Virg. Executors Were His Dear Wife (not named) & Son "Elias". The Settlement of His Estate Was Delayed, Evidently Because "Mrs. Alice Keckley" (His Wife) Did Not "Qualify".

He Was A Rev. War Soldier as - "Benjamin Cackley" - A Member of "Daniel Morgan's Co. of Virg. Riflemen (96). He Was Wounded on Dec 30-1775 At The Battle For Quebec, Canada". "Was He" Made The "Famous Bee-Line March" of 600 Miles From Winchester, Va. To Boston, Mass. In 25 Days, or Average of 24 Miles Per Day. (July 14 To Aug 7th)

This will give you a good general idea of Gen No. 1 - and the THREE different Spellings of The Original Family Name, which my "Historians" are Sure was not Intentional - but due to "Circumstances". Caused by these "German Boys" pronunciation of their last name. A German Always pronounces an "E" as if it was a Long or Broad "A" in English, therefore, they pronounced their names "Kackley". If a German wrote it down They would Spell it "Keckley", but others would Spell it either "Kackley" or "Cackley" - both pronounced the Same. Therefore - as these German Boys eventually owned "tangible property", the documents were frequently made out WRONGLY, and when they disposed of that property they were compelled to use these wrong spelled names - which furnished these wrong Spelled names. In the middle 1700's it was more important to "till the Soil" to make a living - then it was - to worry about the "Spelling of your name" - therefore - 2 Sons (1) John + (2) Elias) became "Kackley", 1 Son (3) Valentine) became "Cackley", and 2 Sons remained "Keckley 6)" (4) Jacob Jr. & (7) Benjamin), Although "Benjamin" was frequently called a "Cackley".

Now, you are probably wondering How I fit into this "Picture" - Well, I am, so to speak - a "Lost Keckley, who can Not "Find His Flock". After 5½ years searching, I am unable to trace my Ancestors farther back than my Gt-Gd. father, namely, "John Keckley" (1803-72) who was born "someplace" in Virginia - his parents names Still unknown to me or Historians. He migrated to Greene Co. Penn., where on [illegible] he married "Christina [illegible]" (1805-1892) - In 1844 they migrated in "[illegible]" to near [illegible], [illegible] Co. Ohio, where he bought 111 Acres of [illegible] - built a "log cabin" and began clearing the land & raising his family of [illegible] [illegible] (“[illegible]”) [illegible] was my Gt. father, (born)

(1837-1900) in 1856, Licking Co. Ohio, he md. "Amy (nane) Hauck" (1839-1900) that fall they migrated via "Covered Wagon", with a brother (b) Wm. Columbus Ke. & wife to near Bloomington, McLean Co. Ills., where they settled on a farm - they had 2 sons & 2 dtrs. - (1) John Wesley Ke. my father - (1860-1919) mrd. 1884 - "Cynsea Frederica White" (beat that name - if you can) in McLean Co. Ills. (1866 - Still living here in Decatur, age - past 91 years) - they had 1 son & 1 dtr. - (1) David Michael Keckley, the writer - b 1-18-1886 (McLean Co. Ills.), mard. 6-16-1917 Winchester, Ills., "Amy Helen Sims" b. 8-13-1890 Jasper Co. Ills. - both living - No Children. The wife a "Stroke Victim" - blood clot Nov. 1949 - left side affected - Still in a "Wheel-Chair", and will be the balance of her days here.

"Public Records" in the Virginias are scarce articles - some due to the ravages of three wars - "Revolu. - 1812 and Civil". First marriage records in Frederick Co. Va in 1782 - too late to "catch" any of the 7 Children of Gen. No. 1 of Jacob Ke. SR. Deaths 1782 or 86 yrs. later - Births 1896 or 114 yrs later than marriages.

I am wondering if you have heard about the two books on W. Va. Land Grants, assessments etc. that has recently been published by the State Auditor "Edgar B. Sims". One the "Making of a State" 9x12" printed in 12 pt type, bound in blue & gold Buckram - 713 pages - covering items from 1739 to 1955. Copies of Land Grants to Geo. Washington, a few of his officers and soldiers, and other individuals by the "Crown of England" and the Commonwealth of Virginia, and parts thereof - Price $5.00 per copy.

The other book is the "Sims index to Land Grants in W. Virginia", of 864 pages of 50,000 names of persons to whom grants were made in the territory now W. Va., some of which date back to 1746. "Price $20.00 per copy.

I learned of the above books when I bought a modern detail map of "Hampshire & Pocahontas Co's, W. Va." from the "Dept. of Highways" at Charleston, W. Va. - and on Mch. 7th received a nice letter from State Auditor "Edgar B. Sims". In my letter I asked if any "Ke-Ka or Cackley(s)" lived in Charleston, and that I was interested in some way of finding out about Land Grants and assessors lists of these persons in Hampshire Co. from about 1760 onward - As it seems that Counties Public Records were all destroyed during the Civil War. Mr. Sims advised that he had made a brief search of the assessment Records and Grants of Hampshire Co. (their earliest records in 1782) He did not find any Grants in those names - but did find in 1801 the name of "Abraham KERKLEY"; 177 acres. In 1816 the name is listed as "Abraham Keckley" 137 acres on "Drains of Mill Branch". No where

in Hampshire detail data for the ...

[illegible]

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[illegible] detail data for the [illegible]

[illegible]

on the "Assessment Records" of Hampshire County earlier than 1809 do we find the names you list.

In searching our Index on Grants we find that Valentine Keckley obtained a Grant in Bath County, Va. in 1797 on "Knapp's Creek." This area went into Pocahontas Co. which was formed in 1821. A search of Pocahontas Co. land assessment book of 1822 (our earliest) reveals a number of "Cackley(s)" Viz:= Valentine, William, Levi, Benjamin & Joseph. (These were all Sons of Valentine SR. - DES). Pocahontas Co. was formed from Bath, Pendleton & Randolph Co's. in 1821, but the area in which these persons appear to have owned land would be the part from Bath Co. Bath was formed from Augusta Co. in 1790. We do not find any of the names you mentioned in our City or Telephone Directories. A copy of the "Valentine Keckley" land Grant can be made for you at a price of $1.50. Signed - Edgar B. Sims - State Auditor.

The above info. about the land assessed to "Abraham Ke" was exactly what I was seeking - and - that Info. cost me NOTHING. I had understood (from the 1893 letter of Dr. Cephas Ke.) that "Abraham" Ke. died on his farm which adjoined Dr. C. Ke's fathers (Joseph Ke) at near Capon Bridge, Va. (now W. Va) - this death was on 6-15-1849. The main reason for my present interest in "Abraham Ke's Family" IS - that we now suspicion our "John Keckley (180?-72)" of Licking Co., Ohio may BE a Son of this (1) "Abraham Keckley", the son of (1) Elias Ke. SR."

On my detail Co. Map of Hampshire Co., I locate the Stream - "Drains of Mill Branch", just to the N.E. of Capon Bridge, and on the west slopes of "Timber Ridge" - a continuation of the "Big or Great North Mountain Range."

Now - our "Chore" IS to secure a "Service" in Charleston W. Va. to search the U.S. Census Records of "Bloomery Township" near the "Drains of Mill Creek Branch" for the years of 1810 and 1820 of the "Abraham & Christina (whisage) Keckley Family" to secure ALL the names of their children, which will show their nearest ages on these two Census Years. Both Census Records are necessary, because some shown in the 1810 Census Record by 1820 will be maried, and listed elsewhere, and some shown in the 1820 Census would not be born by the time the 1810 Census was taken.

If "Abraham Ke." had a son "John", whose age shows he would be born in 1802 - any "problem" will seem to be "Solved".

Of course, you know how difficult it is to secure info. by remote control (correspondence), especially 200 years back, as only a few "Persons" will go to the Court House or the State Dept. of Health to secure detail data for the F. History - and - if you must buy these "Documents" at $1.00 per, they soon run into many hundreds

(over)

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of dollars - but if you try to make too many "personal calls" you may, like many former Historians, become a "Public Charge". "Public Genealogists" at from $4.00 to $6.00 per hour also soon become quite expensive.

Mr. Campbell's cost. "Mr. Willard H. Kackley" of Ripsville, Ohio invested $8.00 in one, which produced the following item taken from "Rev. Christian Streit's" DIARY: = "FEB. 18-1788- BURIED AT OLD FURNACE, JACOB KECKLEY, AGED 86 YEARS, FROM STAMHEIM, WURTTEMBERG. TEXT REV. 14:13".=

We have known of this "Rev. C. Streit" the Lutheran Church Minister at Winchester from July 19-1785 to 1812 - as his name appears on many of the Keckley & Kackley Boys & Girls Marriage Records of that Era; and we had utmost confidence in he and his records, therefore, we feel the above "Diary Entry" is as authentic as any "Public Record". All of Jacob Ke Sr's Sons, except Benjamin - and his wife "Alice" WERE living when he was buried on FEB. 18-1788- therefore, he secured the above Info. for his Sermon and "Diary" - direct from the Family, So, it MUST BE AUTHENTIC.

The above item to me settled 4 items for "Jacob Ke. Sr.", namely, his approx. Birthyear, Death date, Nationality - and above all that his original name here in the "Colonies" WAS "KECKLEY", which I have contended for the past 5 years, although in his Will the "maker" spelled it "Kackley" - which "Jacob" signed with "his mark." If he could NOT SIGN his own name - then - he evidently could not read either, so, he could not determine that his name WAS INCORRECTLY SPELLED.

In re - your Original Ancestor's name - I imagine that you may have discovered by now that it was "McNIER" - German - and pronounced as "McNAIR or McNEIR". And the spelling became changed by the pronunciation, the same as the "KECKLEY name".

In further reference to the "Rev. Streit Diary Entry" - I feel that this "Diary" would disclose many items that the Frederick & Hampshire County Public Records did not yet show - and that it would be foolish to pay this "Prof. Genealogist" $8.00 every time we suspicioned an "item" might be found in it - So why not try to locate that "Diary".

So, I wrote the present Minister of the Winchester Lutheran Church, and learned that the Church Trustees had published in 1954 a book entitled "This Heritage", which included the "Rev. Streit Diary" (singular), obtainable at $4.00 per copy. So, I sent check and had a copy within a week. The "Diary" covered 43 pages - but - began

of dollars – but if you try to make too many "personal calls" you may, like many former Historians, become a "Public Charge". "Public Genealogists" at from $4.00 to $6.00 per hour also soon become quite expensive.

Mr. Campbell's Asst. "Mr. Willard H. Kackley" of Bryanville, Ohio invested $8.00 in one, which produced the following item taken from "Rev. Christian Streit's" DIARY: = "FEB. 18-1788- BURIED AT OLD FURNACE, JACOB KECKLEY, AGED 86 YEARS, FROM STAMHEIM, WURTTEMBERG. TEXT REV. 14:13". =

We have known of this "Rev. C. Streit" the Lutheran Church Minister at Winchester from July 19- 1785 to 1812 – as his name appears on many of the Keckley & Kackley Boys & Girls Marriage Records of that Era; and we had utmost confidence in he and his records, therefore, we feel the above "Diary Entry" is as Authentic as any "Public Record". All of Jacob Ke. Sr's Sons, except Benjamin – and his wife "Alice" WERE living when he was buried on FEB. 18-1788- therefore, he secured the above Info. for his Sermon and "Diary" - direct from the Family, So, it MUST BE AUTHENTIC.

The above item to me settled 4 items for "Jacob Ke. Sr.", namely, his approx. Birthyear, Death date, Nationality – and above all that his original name here in the "Colonies" WAS "KECKLEY", which I have contended for the past 5 years, although in his Will the "Maker" spelled it "Kackdry" – which "Jacob" signed with "his mark." If he could NOT SIGN his own name – then – he evidently could not read either, so, he could not determine that his name WAS INCORRECTLY SPELLED.

In re- your Original Ancestor's name – I imagine that you may have discovered by now that it was "Mc. NIER" – German – and pronounced as "Mc. Nair or McNeir." And the spelling became changed by the pronunciation, the Same as the "KECKLEY Name".

In further reference to the "Rev. Streit Diary Entry" – I feel that this "Diary" would disclose many items that the Frederick & Hampshire County Public Records did not yet show – and that it would be foolish to pay this "Prof'l Genealogist" $8.00 every time we suspicioned an "item" might be found in it – So- why not try to locate that "Diary".

So, I wrote the present Minister of the Winchester Lutheran Church, and learned that the Church Trustees had published in 1954 a book entitled "This Heritage", which included the "Rev. Streit Diary" (Singular), obtainable at $4.00 per copy. So, I sent check and had a copy within a week. The "Diary" covered 43 pages – but – began

on July 19-1785, and ended abruptly on Nov. 28-1788 - not even Completing the year 1788 - a coverage of about 3 1/3 years ONLY. Very disappointing, as I anticipated "Diaries" covering possibly 40 or so years. Only two "Keckley" items appeared, namely, the burial of Jacob Sr., and the election on Dec. 15-1787 of "Ellis Keckley" as a Reformed Deacon of the "Old Furnace Church". Two other "Keckley" names appeared in the 396 page Book, namely, "Harry B." as Elder 1922-25 and Financial Secy. 1915 - at Winchester, and "Frank" as a confirmed member in the Dec 31-1953 listing.

And during the 3 1/3 years of the "Diary" Rev. Streit gave 386 Sermons, 409 baptisms, 163 Confirmations, had 157 Marriage Ceremonies & 43 Funerals. but not a single Marriage of a "Keckley or a Kackley". He also preached at many other Lutheran Churches in that Section - also 3 times at Phila, Penn, one at Lancaster, Penn., Hagerstown, Md. & Funkstown. These trips were all made on "Horseback" - took one week to ride to Phila., or two weeks per sermon. The same to Lancaster, Penn. "Rev. C. Streit" died in Winchester on 3-10-1812. Served there 1785-1794 & 1804-1812 = 18 years, and at Millerstown Now Woodstock 1795-1803 or 9 years - a total of 27 years in "The Valley of Virginia". He died at age of 62 years 9 mos. & 3 days. If you are a "Lutheran" - the book "This Heritage" would be very interesting to you, as it covers the founding of the Lutheran Churches in Virginia.

If you are interested in W. Virg., write "Edgar B. Sims" State Auditor W. Virg., Charleston, W. Va., for a copy of his circular on his "Books" - and copies of the "Map of present W. Va. as of 1738 - and as of 1780," which will give you an excellent idea of the Section you were born in, and for .75¢ you may obtain a very detail Map of Pocahontas Co, W. Va, which even shows all farm residences.

Since Auditor Sims last name is the same as my wife's "Maiden" name - I am "playing a few cards" with he - for some additional info. in "Hampshire County", because, the records at Romney now date back to only 1865 - prior ones destroyed during "Civil War" - he seems very accomodating - so - to further the sales of his "Books" - I may get some "extra favors".

I have not yet asked "Bill" to pinpoint the two "Mills" built by Valentine Kackley Sr. - are they on the Small Stream that flows thru Millpoint and empties into the "Green Brier River" about 1 1/2 Miles away, or on the Green Brier? I have assumed that neither are now being operated. The detail Co. Map published by the State shows "Saw Mills" but No "Grist Mills" - a "Seasonal Industry" is shown at "Millpoint", also a Business Building, a Farm House, and one Home Lunar - and nearby 7 farm homes and one Home Lunar. "Bill" tells me the population is 15 persons.

(over)

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(over)

For the past 18 months I have been "processing" a Branch of (1) "Abraham Kackley's" Son "(83) Hamilton Jefferson ("Jeff") and Margaret ("Peggy"- Parish) Kackley" who came from Hampshire Co. Va., in 1855 to "Coles County, Ills." they never wrote to any of their Virg. Relatives, so, they were LOST for 100 years, or until I located a descendant's Branch at Charleston, Ills, through a death notice published in our local Newspaper in Sep. 1955. There were 10 Children in this "Jeff & Peggy Ka" family, however, the ones I contacted only knew of 6 - and 5 had came to Coles Co. with their Parents - or rather 7 and one born there later on. No one knew these Childrens parents names, when or where they died. But, from this meager beginning I have now contacted all 8 Ills. Bchs, except one dtr. who they have died "Single" - None knew of her. I have not had time to answer "Leads" - but I believe these Bchs. now total more than 600 descendants. They are now scattered over, Ills, Ind., Ohio, Fla., Mo., Kans., Iowa, Colo., and Calif.

The "original Charleston Ills. Story" was that the parents both died suddenly of "Cholera" leaving these 6 Orphans - their "John" then only 2 years old - this was supposed to be shortly after they came to Coles Co. Ills. - No one knew where any of the other Bchs. descendants were now living - or very little of Anything. I then got busy and procured the 1850 U.S. Census of the family in Hampshire Co. Va., then later on the 1860 " " " " " then Cumberland Co. Ills - the two Census Reports gave me the names of all 10 Childrens, and their nearest ages on those two years, which both checked "OK." I learned, eventually that one son (5) "Jobe Sine Ka." served in the "Civil War", so, secured his data from the "Archivist of Ills. State Library," Spfld. Ills., and learned he was entered as "Joab or Jacob CRACKLEY", and that in the same Co. & Regiment there was an "Elias J. CRACKLEY", whom they stated shows the same in all respects, except for name.

After I secured the two "Census Reports" - it was easy to "dope out" that "Elias J Crackley" - WAS "(6) Elias James Kackley". More evidence of carelessness in listing "Civil War Soldiers" - fully 50% were WRONGLY listed. I then secured his record from Springfield, and it was NOT the same as his brother "Jobe Sine's", as he served all thru the War - and Elias J. died of a disease at Nashville, Tenn. on Feb. 1864 - and is buried in the "Nat'l. Cemetery" at nearby Madison, Tenn. - A request is now in Wash. D.C. for what detail data they may have - as to exact b. date, and his marital status. So, I am "hoping" on this item.

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Page No 17
(I dislike the Xxx-de-no)

Assumed - on a Bch. of 10 Children - there are a few that "dried" giving their Bth. date - and - when other Bchs can NOT give them data - you are forced to seek "Public Records" - and if not convenient to "View", you must buy them, which soon runs into many dollars extra expense.

To save expenses, I plan to soon go to Charleston, Ills, and have them "dig out" the dusty Birth & death record books for me to peruse, begining with No. 1 - and on the Marg. Books - from about 1860 onward. This will involve probably two or three days time - but will save about $100.00 in "fees" for Certified Records. Before the trip - I plan to go to Springfield, and search the "1865 State Census" "micro-film-records" (with a good magnifing glass), to help determine if the parents were then Still Living - if not - then I will know they died sometime between Aug 4 - 1860 (Census taking date), and the date the State Census taken in 1865 - I must search in both Counties of "Coles & Cumberland" to determine this. Then someway I must learn their approx. death dates, and try to find their burial place in some rural Cemetery - a tough job.

Most "Historians" take what is sent them, and leave the "Stubborn" branch go - but that makes a very poor "F. History" - So, I make every effort possible to complete every Branch 100% - IF they do not take too much money to complete.

By the way - can you furnish me the names and address of any of the descendants of - (6) "Joseph & Susan (McClure) Cox". And (7) "Benjamin & Fanny (McKeown) Cackley" who migrated to Jackson Co. Ohio? - We have been unable to locate any of these Branches.

I also note you quote "Thomas Hill's" wife as Ann Cackley - We have her recorded as "Anne". Are we WRONG?

I also have the name & adr. of "Willa Belle Cackley", 1315 East 62nd. Terrace, Kans. City, Mo. - have never written her - where does she "fit in the Cackley Brchs."?

The answers to the above 3 Questions, I would like to "relay" to "Mr. Finley B. Campbell", who Is processing the "Cackley Branches".

Mike, I must confess that this letter has run into a "book", whereas, I only intended to write 2 or 3 pages - So - I must beg your pardon. Probably much of this "Keckley & Kackley" data will Not interest you too much - but - while I was writing, I thought you would be interested in the First Generation, so as to build up to your Ancestor "(1) Valentine (none) Cackley Sr."

Mr. Campbell Is a former "Justice of the Peace", and still (over)

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does considerable "Federal and Ohio State Income Tax work" at his home - and now is his busy season, So, if you write him it might be a little time before you hear from him - So - do not despair. And, in the meantime - if you would like to look over my data - almost any time will be suitable - as I put in about 10 hours daily on this F. History work - letters come in almost daily from the hundreds of contacts I am making - but - you better give me a few days advance notice, as once in a great while we are away from home. Our over-night accomodations are usually not too good, as we rent out all spare rooms to male roomers, but, of course, now and then we do have a "Vacancy", when we can accomodate you - be sure and bring the "Mrs.", as she and the wife can "confab" while you & I do the History work.

So, with this, I will bring this lengthy letter to a close, write when it may be convenient - and if you have any questions - fire them to me - and I will do my best to answer them.

Very truly yours,

H. Earl Keckley,
938 - West Wood St.,
Decatur, Illinois

(Letter No. 1632)
(Reading time 1 hr.)

P.S. -

When you reply - the "Questions" are marked xx in left margin, so as to save rereading the whole letter.

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H.C.K.

Decatur, Illinois
March 24, 1957

Dr. John O. McNeel
1127 Pine Street
St. Louis 1, Missouri

Dear Dr. McNeel:

Your letter of the 22nd inst. arrived this a. m., in re: the postoffice of Millpoint, W. Va., originally Cackleytown, and same inquiry concerning the Cackley Family.

You seem to have settled at least the time that Millpoint, Virg., (now W. Va.) became a U. S. Post Office, however, the name of the town could have been changed earlier than the date the P. O. was established.

I have a copy of a letter xxtxx written on Feb. 6, 1893 by Dr. Cephus Kackley Maysville, Ky., to Wm. H. Cackley, of Ronceverte, W. Va., (this Wm. H. C. the son (8) Valentine Cackley, Jr., not the Wm. H. Ca of near Millpoint) in which he was seeking info. about the Virg. Cackleys - and his letter contained the following paragraph - "Ixxxxxxxxxxxxx In a list of battle skirmishes in Va. I find the name Cackleytown. I could not find such a postoffice. Where is it? I think Wm. Cackley spoke of the place when at father's."

Of course this has reference to Civil War skirmishes and this would be thirty years after the date the P. O. Dept. Records show that the town was Millpoint. (1865 less 1835=30 years). However between 1862 and 1865 the residents and the Civil War soldiers and correspondents evi ently still called the little village Cackleytown. The above listed 1893 letter was where I conceived the idea that Cackleytown did not become Millpoint until the latter part of the Civil War, or later. The above named Dr. Cephus Kackley was of the 4th generation, a son of (4) Joseph (none) and Elizabeth (Turner) Ka., and he a son of (4) Elias (none) Kackley, Sr., a son of Jacob Keckley, Sr. (1701-1788), or Gen. No. 1.

You ask the privilidge to look over my Cackley data at some time and that Bill Cackley may have given me much of this material. Bill had sent no data, until a letter came on Mch. 22nd, in which he sent Info. for his branch, his parents, grandparents, and grat grd. parents (Gen. No. 3) of Levi (none), Sr., and Nancy (none) Bradshaw Cackley. He sent no data, not even names for his gradfather (5 Wm. James Ca.), 3 brothers and two sisters,

I note that you are compiling a History of the McNeel Family, therefore, I am wondering how far back you may know about the original Keckley ancestors, who came to the colonies and if you know about the three spellings of the original family name of - Keckley -- namely - Keckley, Kackley & Cackley.

Before I forget it - you are welcome to come look over my Keckley FAmily History Data, at any time it may suit your convienence - however - I wish to state that my "Cackley Branches" data IS LIMITED, as I personally have contacted none of the "Cackley Branches" - I ran onto Bill in a rather peculiar manner. I wrote the Assoc. of Commerce at Millpoint not then knowing it was such a small village - my letter was sent to the Prison Camp - then relayed to Wm. H. Cackley of the Twin Oakes Farm - and he replied - my inquiry concerned the date that Cackleytown became Millpoint - and Bill did not know.

I will explain a little more about the Keckley F. History, processiong of data It looks like we will not be compiling for 20 Or 30 years yet. There are at present 3 Historians and a General Geneologist - so engaged. I have been working on this history for only about 5½ years. The Gen'l Genealogist about 8 years - at present we have catalogued probably over 9,000 ancestors and descendants. I alone - have added over 4,000 in my 5½ years, or almost ½ pf our total.

I put in about 3 years on the Keckley Bchn. ONLY, and while doing so - ran into a Kackley Bch. out in Nebraska, who changed his last name to Keckley - and at that time he had 8 children, ranging in age from 6 to 22 years - and they all became Keckley(s) without any legal procedure EXCEPT xx oldest s on who applied

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with his father. This instance threw me into processing "Kackley" Branches - before - I was ready to do so - therefore, for the pasy 2½ years + - I have been "processing" Kackley" Branches.

Our "Gen'l Genealogist" - "Mr. Finley B. Campbell" of Pleasant City, Ohio - has been "processing" mostly - "Cackley" Branches, therefore, he has MORE "CACKLEY" detail data than we other 3 "Historians" - though - we all do know about what work each of we four are doing.

I have, I would roughly say - probably 300 " Cackley" names, beginning with Gen. No. 2 of "Valentine and Mary (Frye) Cackley" and their 6 sons and 4 daughters - names only - no dates - on the 3rd Gen's - I have a few dates - but from the 4th Gen. onward on some of the Bchs. I do have both names and dates. Mr. Campbell, I am sure has much more "Cackley data" than he has sent me.

We four "Historians" searched for some 8 8 years to finally PROVE that the ORIGINAL name here in the "Colonies" was "Keckley" but - we still can Not locate the leading record of the 1st Gen'rn. of "Jacob Keckley, Sr." - He evidently came here in the late 1720's or early 1730's. Which IS too early for the first "ship loading recors" at Phila., Penn., shown in " Rupp's Thirty Thousand names", which includes the Immigrants in Penn." from 1727 to 1776, or 50 years.

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He is a descendantx from the 1) "John Kackley, Sr, Bch.," thru his daughter (8) Hannah (ka) Johnson; (1) John Ka. Johnson; (?) Wm. James Johnson - then the ?) Hon. Chas. B. Johnson, Gen. No. 6, of Clarksburg (an attorney).

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No. 70 (DIED), Sebastian Cacklie, aged 50 yrs.; No. 71 - Sebastian Cackelie, age 22 yrs. Cackelie; 72 Diderick Cackelie, age 20 yrs.; and No. 73 - Hance (actually Jean) age 17 yrs. One other male died en route, namely, Hans Joner.

with his father. This instance threw me into processing "Kackley" Branches - before - I was ready to do so - therefore, for the pasy 2½ years + - I have been "processing" Kackley" Branches.

Our "Gen'l Genealogist" - "Mr. Finley B. Campbell" of Pleasant City, Ohio - has been "processing" mostly - "Cackley" Branches, therefore, he has MORE "CACKLEY" detail data than we other 3 "Historians" - though - we all do know about what work each of we four are doing.

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A distant relative of "Chas. B. Johnson" - "Mrs. W. E. Collins" thru (1) John Ka., Sr. dtr. (1) Rachel (Ka) (Yoe) now Yost, and others= She Gen. No. 6* was C. B. Johnson "source"for ~~kkx~~ he to use his "theory" = and she actually believed the "Caquelins" were our originial ancestors. I will relate more of "Mrs. W. E. Collins" later on.

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Therefore, when I had a little spare time in 1953, I began a search in Penn. to either PROVE or DISAPPROVE these "Caquelins" as our ancestors (originial). In about 4 mos. time by correspondence, I PROVED (thru the Caquelin Family Gen. Geneaologist, Mr. Henry S. Cacklin, Dillsburg, Penn.) that the Caquelin's were not even a "LINEAGE" by any of Sebastian"s Sr. 7 children marrying into either a "Ke - Ka or Cackley" Family. If I could have contacted this "Henry S. ~~Smkkmy~~ Cocklin" at first - 10 days was all I would have needed to PROVE them not even a "Lineage."

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She engineered" her lineage this way: Emma Barnes Collins, dtr. of Sarah M. Tribley Collins, dtr. of Francés Yost Tribley, dtr. of Rachel Cackley (actually Kackley - D. E. K.) Yost, dtr. of John Cockley and the said John Kackley a son of Jacob Kackley (actually Keckley - D. E. K.) To support this "John Cockley" under "ancestor"s services" she brought in: an archivist, Penn. State Library; French Huguenots; Sebastian Coquelin, his sons Sebastian (he died and never reached Penn. - D. E. K.), Dietrich and Jean; Anna May Gogley - a member Penn. Huguenot Soc., from "Jean"; John Cooley, owner of grist mills near Winchester, Va.; who was one of four brothers who operated mills near Capon Springs, Va.; about 1812 (was 1817 - D. E. K.) John Kackley (Keckley- Cocley - Cackley) came to Guernsey Co., Ohio from Winchester, Va. The name is also spelled "Gogley - Keeley - Kuechele - Kechlein - Cockley."

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He was a descendant of (4) Elias Ka., Sr., more commonly known as "Ellis", through his son (4) Joseph & Elizabeth (Turner) Ka., then (3) Dr. Cephus Kackley (Gen. No. 4). Through these two letters of Dr. Cephus Ka's. in the past 2 years we have contacted descendants of about all of (4) Elias Ka. Sr's. 12 children, whereas before that we had only contacted about 5 of them.

Probably I better give you the data, as we now have it for Generation No. 1, of Jacob Keckley, Sr., whp migrated from Lancaster Co., Penn., in 1741 to the Valley of Virg." (now the Shenandoah Valley) and settled in what is now Frederick County. Here he secured approx. 2,000 acres of land and operated a "Plantation" for about 47 years or until his death in 1788. Have you ever learned where this plantation was located?

Gen. No. 1 = Keckley Family History

Jacob (none) Keckley, Sr. B________1701 or 1702 In Stanheim, Wurttemberg, Germany
D. Feb. 15 or 16, 1788 In Frederick County, Virg.
Brd. Feb. 18,1788 in Old Furnace Cemetery, now St. Johns Church and Cemetery, located aboutcx 2 mi. west of Mount Williams, on State Route No. 600.
Mar'd about 1740 in Lancaster, Penn., we believe - to

Alice ____________ B._______,1717; D. __________,1805, in Frederick Co. Virg.
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CHILDREN

(1) John (none) Kackley, Sr, B. 7-30-1741, Lancaster Co., Penn. D. 4-23-1823 Guerhsey Co., Ohio, now in Noble Co., 2½ miles so. east of Pleasant City, Guernsey Co, Ohio. He has 3 sons & 5 dtrs. - Most of them lived in Guernsey Co., Ohio. He was a Rev. War Soldier. Bdr'd in C. S. Rich Cemetery, S. E. of Pleasant City, Ohio
wife Elizabeth Whiteman

(2) Jacob (none) Kackley, Jr. No birth or death data. Mar'd Margaret Secrist. Has 2 sons & 3 dtrs. Inherited the home plantation. In 1788, died intestate only a few years later. Estate evidently held intact by wife, Margaret, as no records can be found.

(3) Valentine (none) Cackley Sr. No birth or death dates.- Mar'd. Mary (none) Frye of Capon Springs, Va. Evidently a dtr. of the early pioneers, Abraham and Agnes Frye, of Frederick Co., Virg., and grd.dtr. of Benjamin Frye (died in Fredk. Co. in 1753). This Frye family came from Montgomery Co., Penn., in about 1738 and settled on Cedar Creek. In about 1788 Valentine Ca., Sr., migrated to what is now Pocahontas Co., W. Va. At that

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time was Greenbrier Co., He settled at what is now Millpoint, W. Va., which he established as Cackleytown. Here he built a modern mill for that time; projected a tannery, started a tilt-hammer and a general store. He also promoted & encouraged other useful industries in that section. And accrued a vast landed estate. He had 6 sons & 4 dtrs.

(4) Elias (none) Kackley, Sr. He was more commonly known as "Ellis" Kackley. — No birth date; d - about 1818 in Frederick Co., Virg., where he lived his entire life. Mr'd Catherine ________, evidently in Frederick Co., Va. They had 8 sons & 8 dtrs., one son, Benjamin, died at an early age. Their first 5 childn. remained in Virg. Also (8) Elias, Jr., who mar'd & died at a fairly young age. The other children came to Gurnsey Co., Ohio to reside, & (7) Jacob & Sarah Snapp to Ky. - then to Knox Co., Ind. (near Vincennes).

(5) Elizabeth & (6) Mary — These two dtrs. we still know nothing about - so, do not know how they spelled their last names, or whom they married.

(7) Benjamin (none) Keckley — Evidently died in Dec. 1780, as his estate was appraised on Jan. 8, 1781, valuation 5954 pounds (about $30,000.00 then - D. E. K.). The sale held on the 16 Jan. 1781, estate settled on Oct. 5, 1781. Only heir, wife, Catherine, who became Mrs. Henry Richaros, before the estate was settled. He was one of the Appraisors. The above data shows clearly why Benjamin was not mentioned in his father's will - made on Aug. 1, 1781. He had died about 8+ months prior, and left no heirs, except his wife, Catherine. Srs. will probated on Oct. 6, 1789, in book 5, pp. 227, Winchester, Virg. Executors were his dear wife (not named) & son, Elias. The settlement of his estate was delayed, evidently because, Mrs. Alice Keckley (his wife), did not qualify.

This will give you a good general idea of Gen. No. 1 - and the three different spellings of the original family name, which we "Historians" are SURE was not intentional - but due to "circumstances" - caused by these "German Boys" pronunciation of their last name. A German always pronounces an "E" as if it was a long or broad "A" in English, therefore, they pronounced their names "Kackley." If a German wrote it down they would spell it "Keckley", but others would spell it either "Kackley" or "Cackley" - both pronounced the same. Therefore - as these German Boys eventually owned "tangible property", the documents were frequently made out WRONGLY, and when they disposed of that property they were compelled to use these wrong spelled names - which furthered these wrong spelled names. In the middle 1700's it was more important to "till the soil" to make a living - than it was - to worry about the "spelling of your name" - therefore - 2 sons ((1) John & (4) Elias) became "Kackley", 1 son (3) Valentine became "Cackley", and 2 sons remained "Keckley" (s) ((2) Jacob, Jr & (7) Benjamin), although "Benjamin" was frequently called a "Cackley".

Now, you are probably wondering How I fit into this "Picture" - Well, I am, so to speak - a "Lost Keckley, who can not find his flock". After 5½ years searching, I am unable to trace my ancestors farther back than my grt. grd. father, namely, "John Keckley" (1802-75) who was born "someplace" in Virginia - his parents names still unknown to we 4 H storians. He migrated to Greene Co., Penn., where on 8-21-1821 he mar'd "Christina Beckenbaugh" (1805-1893). In 1832 they migrated on "horseback" to near Utica, Licking Co., Ohio, where he

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adjoined Dr. C. Ka's father's (Joseph Ka.) at near Capon Bridge, Va. (now
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Mr. Campbell's asst. "Mr. Willard H. Kackley" of Byesville, Ohio, invested
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As usual - On a Bch. of 10 children - there are a few that "buck" giving their Bch. data - and - when other Bchs. can NOT give their data - you are faced to seek "Public Records" - and if not convienent to "View" you must buy them, which soon runs into many dollars extra expense.

To save expenses, I plan to soon go to Charleston, Ills., and have them "dig out" the dusty birth & death record books for me to peruse, beginning with No. 1 - and on the Mar'ge books - from about 1860 onward. This will involve probably two or three days time - but will save about $100.00 in "fees" for certified records. Before this trip - I plan to go to Springfield, and search the "1865 State Census" "micro-film - records" (with a good magnifying glass), to help determine if the parents were then still living - if not - then I will know they died sometime between Aug. 4, 1860 (census taking date), and the date of the state census taken in 1865. I must search in both counties of "Coles & Cumberland" to determine this. Then some way I must learn their approx. death dates and try to find their burial place in some rural cemetery - a tough job.

Most "Historians" take what is sent them, and leave the "stubborn" branch go - but that makes a very poor "F. History" - so, I make every effort possible to complete every branch 100% - IF they do not take too much monmy to complete.

By the way - can you furnish me the names and addresses of any of the descendants of - (6) "Joseph & Susan (McClure) Ca." and (7) "Benjamin & Fanny (McKeever) Cackley" who migrated to Jackson Co., Ohio ? We h ave been unable to locate any of these branches.

I also note that you quote "Thomas Hill's" wife as Ann Cackley. We have her recorded as "Anne". Are we wrong?

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To save expenses, I plan to soon go to Charleston, Ills., and have them "dig out" the dusty birth & death record books for me to peruse, beginning with No. 1 - and on the Mar'ge books - from about 1860 onward. This will involve probably two or three days time - but will save about $100.00 in "fees" for certified records. Before this trip - I plan to go to Springfield, and search the "1865 State Census" "micro-film - records" (with a good magnifying glass), to help determine if the parents were then still living - if not - then I will know they died sometime between Aug. 4, 1860 (census taking date), and the date of the state census taken in 1865. I must search in both counties of "Coles & Cumberland" to determine this. Then some way I must learn their approx. death dates and try to find their burial place in some rural cemetery - a tough job.

Most "Historians" take what is sent them, and leave the "stubborn" branch go - but that makes a very poor "F. History" - so, I make every effort possible to complete every branch 100% - IF they do not take too much money to complete.

By the way - can you furnish me the names and addresses of any of the descendants of - (6) "Joseph & Susan (McClure) Ca." and (7) "Benjamin & Fanny (McKeever) Cackley" who migrated to Jackson Co., Ohio ? We h ave been unable to locate any of these branches.

I also note that you quote "Thomas Hill's" wife as Ann Cackley. We have her recorded as "Anne". Are we wrong?

I also have the name & ads. of "Willa Beale Cackley", 1315 East 62nd Terrace, Kansas City, Mo., - have never written her - where does she fit in the Cackley Bchs.?

The answers to the above 3 questions, I would like to "relay" to "Mr. Finley B. Campbell" who is processing the Cackley Branches.

Well, I must confess that this letter has ran into a "book", whereas, I only intended to write 2 or 3 pages - so - I must beg your pardon. Probably much of this "Keckley & Kackley" data will not interest you too much. - but - while I was writing, I thought you would be interested in the First Generation, so as to build up to your answer "(3) Valentine (none) Cackley, Sr."

Mr. Campbell IS a farmer "Justice of the Peace," and still does considerable "Federal and Ohio State Income Tax Work" at his home - and now is his busy season, so, if you write him it might be a little time before you hear from him - so - do not dispair. And, in the meantime - if you would like to come t o look over my data - almost any time will be suitable - as I put in about 10 hours daily on this F. History work - letters come in almost daily from the hundreds of contacts I am making -but - you better give me a few days advance notice, as once in a great while We are away from home. Our over-night accomodations are usually not too good, as we rent out all spare rooms to male roomers, but of course, now and then we do have a "vacancy" where we can accomodate you - be sure and bring the "Mrs.", as she and the wife can "confab" while you & I do the History work.

So, with this, I will bring this lengthy lette r to a close, write when it may be convenient - and if you have any questions - fire them to me - and I will do my best to answer them.

Yours very truly,
s/ D. Earl Keckley
938 West Wood St.
Decatur, Illinois

Letter No. 1632
(Reading time 1 hr.)

P. S.;-
When you reply - the "questions" are marked ** in left margin, so as to save re= reading the whole letter.

DEK

I also have the name & ads. of "Willa Beale Cackley", 1315 East 6240 Terrace, Kansas City, Mo., - have never written her - where does she fit in the Cackley Bchs.?

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